UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/915
26 August 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 25 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 15 and 21 August 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States which are providing them with facilities in order to commit these acts of aggression, namely, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to halting such acts, which endanger the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

These acts continue to cause hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to private and public property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex, which enumerates the violations of Iraqi airspace, circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 15-21 August 1999

1. In the northern region 20 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of between 6,000 and 12,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Irbil, Zakho, Baibo, Ayn Zalah, Tall Kayf, Sanjar, Rawanduz and Ba'shiqah.

2. In the southern region 246 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of between 9,000 13,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Afak, Qal'at Salih, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Qadisiyah, Sharqi, Hayy, Hawr al-Himar, Maymunah, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Shu'aybah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab and Umm Qasr.

3. At 1102 hours on 15 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and F-18 aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi and Turkish airspace. They flew 22 sorties, 18 from Saudi airspace and 4 from Kuwaiti airspace, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and by an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. These aircraft overflew the areas of Ushbayjah, Mu'ayanah, Khidr, Artawi, Salman, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Qal'at Sukkar and Jalibah. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 1210 hours.

4. At 1015 hours on 15 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the northern region, coming from Turkish airspace. They flew 18 sorties over the areas of Dohuk, Mosul, Zakho, Amaliyah, Irbil, Aqrah and Rawanduz. Our air defences engaged the aircraft in self-defence and drove them off at 1335 hours.

5. At 1150 hours on 15 August 1999 enemy aircraft fired two laser-guided missiles at the Nasiriyah highway.

6. At 1030 hours on 16 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the northern region, coming from Turkish airspace and supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. They flew 20 sorties over the areas of Irbil, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amaliyah and Aqrah. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 1335 hours.

7. At 1510 hours on 16 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They flew 56 sorties, 48 from Saudi airspace and 8 from Kuwaiti airspace, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and by an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the areas of Lasaf, Salman, Artawi, Basra, Samawah, Qurnah and Rifa'i. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 1545 hours.

8. Between 1054 and 1301 hours on 16 August 1999, United States and British aircraft fired a laser-guided missile at a site in the area of Kut, killing three people and wounding eight.

9. At 1035 hours on 17 August 1999, United States and British aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the northern region, coming from Turkish airspace and supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace and by F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft. They flew 22 sorties over the areas of Dohuk, Aqrah, Pibu, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz and Mosul. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 1345 hours.

10. At 1355 hours on 17 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They flew 48 sorties, 14 from Kuwaiti airspace and 34 from Saudi airspace, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and by an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the areas of Ushbayjah, Hayy, Artawi, Hawr al-Himar, Jalibah, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Rumaythah, Samawah, Kut, Aziziyah, Afak, Shaykh Sa'd, Diwaniyah, Ali al-Gharbi, Badrah and Jasan. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 2135 hours.

11. At 1535 hours on 18 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They flew 58 sorties, 24 from Kuwaiti airspace and 34 from Saudi airspace, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and by an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew Ushbayjah, Taqtaqanah, Samawah, Afak, Ali al-Gharbi, Ali al-Sharqi, Hayy and Nu'maniyah. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 2205 hours.

12. At 1155 hours on 19 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-16, F-15, F-18 and Tornado aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They flew 18 sorties from inside Saudi airspace and 20 from inside Kuwaiti airspace supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the areas of Artawi, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Ramaythah, Qal'at Salih, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Maymunah and Ushbayjah. Our defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 1855 hours.

13. At 1035 hours on 20 August 1999, United States and British F-15 aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi airspace and supported by an AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They flew 16 sorties over the areas of Basra, Salman and Ushbayjah. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them back at 1100 hours.

14. At 0810 hours on 21 August 1999, United States and British F-15 and F-16 aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, coming from Saudi airspace. They flew 18 sorties from Saudi airspace, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft, over the areas of Lasaf, Ushbayjah and Mu'ayanah. Our air defences engaged them in self-defence and drove them off at 1030 hours.